

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MR. RICHARD ROEHRKASSE FOR HIS 20 YEARS AS A TRUSTEE OF SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS COLLEGE

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedicated community service of Mr. Richard Roehrkaske, as he marks his 20th year as a Trustee for Southwestern Illinois College.

Richard Roehrkaske was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Trustees for Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC) in 1991 and has been continuously re-elected since that time. A resident of Red Bud, Illinois, Mr. Roehrkaske had experience in the Information Technology field as a systems analyst, designer and project manager. He had a desire to serve his community and pursued membership on the SWIC Board of Trustees as a way to help ensure access to quality education for area residents.

As a SWIC Trustee, Mr. Roehrkaske has enthusiastically worked with faculty, administration and staff on the Strategic Planning Committee since its inception. He helped to update existing and develop new Board policies and procedures to address strategic planning priorities.

Mr. Roehrkaske has been a consistent, active participant in helping SWIC maintain its longstanding accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), and achieve model-institution recognition from the HLC for its Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) initiatives and achievements.

With his background in Information Technology, Mr. Roehrkaske has been a longstanding champion of IT—from smart-classrooms to community-wide applications—helping to establish SWIC as one of the leading IT-supported community colleges in the state and the nation.

In his longstanding role as Board of Trustees Facilities and Finance Committee Chair, Mr. Roehrkaske has helped to develop and identify funding resources for SWIC and to complete numerous major capital development projects. Among the significant projects to benefit from his involvement are: the Liberal Arts and Information Sciences buildings at the Belleville Campus; renovations and expansions at the Sam Wolf Granite City and Red Bud Campuses; and the Schmidt Art Center, in collaboration with the SWIC Foundation Board.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Mr. Richard Roehrkaske for his 20 years of service as a Trustee of Southwestern Illinois College and to wish him the very best in the future.

RECOGNIZING MR. CARMEN A. POLICY

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Carmen A. Policy, who received the prestigious National Education and Leadership Award from the Sons of Italy Foundation on May 25th. This award is presented by the foundation annually to the Italian American who has upheld a commitment to educational excellence, leadership and the betterment of society. Previous recipients of this outstanding award include Joe Paterno and Antonin Scalia.

Mr. Policy, a native of Youngstown and Ohio's 17th district, graduated from Youngstown State University in 1963, and in 1966 earned his Juris Doctorate Degree from Georgetown University Law Center here in Washington, DC. For many years, he pursued a successful law practice career in Ohio.

In 1983, Carmen traded in the courtroom for the gridiron and became Vice President of the San Francisco 49ers. In 1991 he became President and CEO of the franchise. As an executive in the 49ers organization, Mr. Policy played a key role in delivering 4 Super Bowl trophies back to the city of San Francisco. In 1994 he was named the National Football League Executive of the Year by The Sporting News and GQ listed him as one of the most powerful men in professional sports. In 1998, Carmen became President and CEO of the Cleveland Browns and during his five years with the Browns, he served as a member of the NFL's Finance, Business Ventures, and Super Bowl Advisory Committees.

After 25 years in the NFL, Carmen, along with his wife Gail, began a new life of wine making in the Napa Valley and the couple founded the Casa Piena Winery. The roots of Casa Piena go back to Policy's childhood in Youngstown's Smokey Hollow neighborhood, where the making and sharing of wine played a central part in the vibrant family life of this largely Italian-American community.

He has sent a strong and clean message to the youth of the Mahoning Valley; if you work hard, play by the rules and get a good education, America will reward you with all the blessings of this great land.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate and honor the hard work and dedication of Mr. Carmen Policy and his wife Gail. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognition of this award.

HONORING GOVERNOR RAUL H. CASTRO ON HIS 95TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 3, 2011*

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Raul Hector Castro, Arizona's first Hispanic Governor, on the occasion of his 95th birthday on June 12, 2011. Raul Castro's legacy is imbedded in my home State's history for his high achievements despite the racism he experienced as a young Mexican immigrant raised in Arizona. Besides holding Arizona's highest State office, Governor Castro served as a United States Ambassador three times: to El Salvador, Bolivia, and Argentina. Last year, Governor Castro was honored with the prestigious Cesar E. Chavez Legacy Award at the Ninth Annual Cesar E. Chavez Foundation Gala in Phoenix. In addition, Governor Castro received the Arizona Legacy Award at the 52nd Annual Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Black and White Ball.

Governor Castro and co-author Dr. Jack August, Jr. have written a fascinating biography entitled "Adversity Is My Angel: The Life and Career of Raul H. Castro." The book traces the astounding life of the former Governor through his childhood as a Mexican immigrant in a harsh land to his election as Governor and Presidentially appointed Ambassador. It chronicles how he overcame personal and racial prejudice to rise to the highest levels of accomplishment.

During the last couple of years, the former Governor has been on a mission to visit and speak with middle school and high school students and encourage them to stay in school and get an education. Governor Castro has visited several schools throughout the State of Arizona sharing his legacy and more importantly stressing the value and importance of an education. Education is a top priority of Governor Castro, and the Institute that carries his name is housed at Phoenix College. The Raul H. Castro Institute is focused on improving the quality of life for the Latino community in Arizona and educating and strengthening partners that serve the Latino community by fostering connections with research institutions, promoting best practice dissemination, and impacting policy decisions in education, health and human services, leadership, and civic participation.

The Honorable Raul H. Castro continues to provide vision and leadership in the State of Arizona, and I ask my colleagues today to join me in recognizing his life's accomplishments and his 95th birthday.

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